

GRAND COUNTY AOP-2004
TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	PLAN APPROVALS	1
II.	JURISDICTIONS	2
III.	AUTHORITY	2
IV.	PURPOSE	2
V.	DEFINITIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS	3
A.	FIRE PROTECTION RESPONSIBILITIES	3
B.	MUTUAL AID DISPATCH AREAS BY DISPATCH LEVEL	3
C.	MUTUAL AID MOVE-UP AND COVER FACILITIES	3
D.	SPECIAL MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS	3
E.	RESPONSIBILITY FOR NON-WILDLAND FIRE EMERGENCIES	4
F.	REPAIR OF WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION DAMAGE	4
VI.	RESOURCE LIST	5
VII.	PROTECTION AREA MAP	7
VIII.	FIRE READINESS	7
A.	FIRE PLANNING	7
B.	WILDFIRE TRAINING NEEDS AND COORDINATION	7
C.	INSPECTION SCHEDULES	7
IX.	WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION PROCEDURES	8
A.	INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM USE	8
B.	DETECTION	8
C.	MOBILIZATION GUIDES	8
D.	NOTIFICATION OF FIRES	8
E.	MUTUAL AID DISPATCH AREAS	9
F.	INITIAL ATTACK DISPATCH LEVELS	9
G.	DISPATCHING AND RESOURCE ORDER PROCESS	9
1.	UNIFIED COMMAND	10
2.	BOUNDARY FIRES	11
H.	REINFORCEMENTS AND SUPPORT	11
I.	MOVE UP AND COVER PROCEDURES	11
J.	INTERAGENCY PROCUREMENT	11
K.	COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS AND FREQUENCIES	12
L.	WILDLAND FIRE SITUATION ANALYSIS	12
M.	STATE EMERGENCY FIRE FUND (EFF)	12
1.	INTENT	12
2.	FUNDING	12
3.	ROLES	13
a.	CSFS DISTRICT FORESTER	13
b.	GRAND COUNTY SHERIFF	13
c.	GRAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS	13
d.	FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS	13
4.	UNIFIED COMMAND	13
5.	EFF ACTIVATION	13
a.	CSFS FORMS	14
b.	COUNTY RESPONSIBILITY	14
c.	CSFS RESPONSIBILITY	14

6.	EFF DEACTIVATION.....	14
a.	MOP-UP AND PATROL	14
b.	RECLAMATION	14
N.	DISPATCH CENTERS.....	15
O.	POST-INCIDENT ACTION ANALYSIS	15
P.	OUT-OF-JURISDICTION ASSIGNMENTS	15
X.	AVIATION PROCEDURES.....	15
A.	REQUESTS AND OPERATION	15
B.	LEAD PLANE/AIR ATTACK ACTIVATION	16
C.	WILDFIRE EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND	16
D.	CSFS SINGLE ENGINE AIR TANKERS	16
XI.	FIRE PREVENTION	17
A.	GENERAL COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES	17
B.	INFORMATION AND EDUCATION	17
1.	FIRE DANGER.....	17
a.	FIRE WEATHER STATION LOCATIONS.....	17
b.	DATA SHARING AND METHODS.....	17
c.	FIRE DANGER DISSEMINATION.....	18
d.	FIRE PREVENTION SIGNS.....	18
2.	JOINT OR SINGLE AGENCY PRESS RELEASES	18
3.	SMOKEY BEAR PROGRAM	18
4.	FIREWISE PROGRAM	18
5.	RED FLAG ANNOUNCEMENTS	18
C.	ENFORCEMENT	19
1.	OPEN BURNING PERMITS	19
2.	RESTRICTIONS AND CLOSURES	19
3.	FIRE INVESTIGATIONS.....	19
XII.	FUELS MANAGEMENT AND PRESCRIBED FIRE CONSIDERATIONS.....	20
XIII.	COST REIMBURSEMENTS.....	20
A.	REIMBURSABLE COSTS.....	20
B.	REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURES & CLAIMS	20
C.	RESOURCE USE RATES	22
XIV.	GENERAL PROCEDURES.....	22
A.	PERIODIC PROGRAM REVIEW	22
B.	ANNUAL UPDATING OF PLAN	22
C.	MID YEAR CHANGES	22
D.	RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES	23
XV.	DIRECTORY OF PERSONNEL	23

I. PLAN APPROVALS

This plan will remain in effect until superseded by following years. Participating agencies will meet prior to fire season each year to review and update this plan for official approval.

Agencies approving the continuation of this agreement through May 1, 2005:

BOCC Grand County	Date
Attest: County Clerk	Date
Grand County Sheriff	Date
CSFS District Forester	Date
Forest Supervisor, Arapaho-Roosevelt NF	Date
Forest Supervisor, Medicine Bow-Routt NF	Date
Bureau of Land Management	Date
Rocky Mountain National Park Superintendent	Date

II. JURISDICTIONS

Jurisdictional boundary lines for USFS, BLM, NPS, and Grand County (private and state) lands are shown on the attached map, EXHIBIT A.

III. AUTHORITY

This plan fulfills Section D-1 of the "Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection" signed January, 1991 between Grand County and the State Board of Agriculture, by and through the Colorado State Forest Service, and hereby becomes part of said agreement as Attachment 3.

This plan fulfills requirements of the latest Interagency Cooperative Fire Management Agreement between the State of Colorado and the USDA Forest Service, USDI Bureau of Land Management, USDI National Park Service, USDI Fish and Wildlife Service, and USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs, and hereby becomes part of that Agreement as an Attachment.

This plan fulfills Article I.2. of the Emergency Fund Contract Agreement for Forest and Watershed Fire Control signed January, 1991 and amended April, 1997, between the State of Colorado and Grand County and becomes Attachment B of that Agreement.

IV. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Annual Fire Operating Plan (AOP) is to set forth standard operating procedures, agreed upon policies, and responsibilities to implement cooperative wildfire protection on all lands within Grand County.

Participants in this AOP consist of the following:

Grand County Sheriff, in behalf of the County and FPD's
Grand County Board of County Commissioners
Sulphur Ranger District of the Arapaho NF (USFS)
Parks Ranger District of the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest (USFS)
Yampa Ranger District of the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest (USFS)
Northwest Colorado Fire Management Unit
Rocky Mountain National Park (NPS)
Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS)
Kremmling Field Office (BLM)

All participants of this plan agree to coordinate their wildfire protection activities as outlined herein.

V. DEFINITIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS

A. FIRE PROTECTION RESPONSIBILITIES

Each jurisdictional agency has ultimate responsibility for wildland fire protection on its own lands. The Sheriff is responsible for fire suppression on all non-federal lands in Grand County. It is clearly and mutually understood that East Grand Fire Protection District will promptly attack wildfires and follow through on all necessary suppression actions on Denver Water properties within the East Grand Fire Protection District.

B. MUTUAL AID DISPATCH AREAS BY DISPATCH LEVEL

All dispatches will be made based on the closest forces capable of responding to the incident.

C. MUTUAL AID MOVE-UP AND COVER FACILITIES

Move-up and cover facilities have not been predetermined; however, the mechanism is in place for fire protection districts to cover each other through the Grand County Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement.

D. SPECIAL MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Denver Water Board Lands

- Notification - When a wildfire occurs on lands owned by Denver Water, the CSFS Fire Duty Officer (FDO) **must** be notified. This FDO will respond, at his/her discretion, to serve as the landowner's representative on the incident and to facilitate reimbursement.
- Use of Mechanized Equipment - Use of mechanized, earthmoving equipment such as bulldozers, graders, etc., will not be permitted on Denver Water lands without the expressed approval of CSFS or Denver Water.
- Aerial Retardant Use - The use of aerial retardants on Denver Water lands is restricted within 100 feet of lakes, rivers and live streams.

Division of Wildlife Lands

When a fire occurs on Division of Wildlife (DOW) property, the DOW should be notified through Hot Sulphur Dispatch.

Federal Lands

Suppression within designated Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, and/or "roadless" areas, as designated on the map attached as EXHIBIT A, will not be conducted without direct orders from the jurisdictional federal official. Travel within Rocky Mountain National Park is restricted to designated roads.

All personnel at the incident must meet the minimum training requirements of and be equipped to NWCG standards (hardhat, eye protection, nomex shirt and trousers or NFPA 1977 flame resistant equivalent, leather gloves, minimum 8 inch high leather boots with lug soles and a fire shelter). All incident personnel will be qualified for the position that they are assigned to or be replaced at the time the mutual aid period ends. Those not meeting the standards may at the end of the mutual aid period or sooner be assigned to non-hazardous duties. When the mutual aid period is declared over, either by definition or responsible agency request, personnel not meeting NWCG standards will not engage in any suppression activity that requires said standards.

The Northwest Colorado Fire Management Unit implemented a Fire Management Plan in 2002. The plan outlines Appropriate Management Response (AMR) for natural ignitions occurring on lands administered by the Routt National Forest and the BLM within Grand County. All agencies involved in fire management shall adhere to direction and operational procedures outlined in the AMR. All agencies will be provided a copy of the plan upon its completion.

Use of mechanized equipment, such as bulldozers, will not be permitted on federal lands without the expressed approval of the appropriate federal official.

Fires within the Fraser Experimental Forest should be confined to as small an area as possible, and a representative of the Fraser Experimental Forest notified at once.

E. RESPONSIBILITY FOR NON-WILDLAND FIRE EMERGENCIES

This plan addresses only wildland fire incidents.

F. REPAIR OF WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION DAMAGE

Repair of wildfire suppression damage is the responsibility of the jurisdictional agency, unless otherwise agreed to by the local multi agency command at the time of fire close out. On Denver Water lands efforts will be made by agencies involved in suppressive action to minimize damage through the use of "light on the land" techniques, or through rehabilitation activities conducted at the time of the incident. Examples of these rehabilitation activities would include: water barring firelines; placement of logs or rocks across firelines; etc....

VI. RESOURCE LIST

Northwest Colorado Fire Management Unit

Craig (BLM)

1-20 person type 1 crew, Craig Hot Shots
1-type 4 engine, 5 person crew
2-750 gal. type 4 engine, 3 person crew
2-200 gal. type 6 engine, 3 person crew

Meeker (BLM)

1-750 gal. type 4 engine, 3 person crew
1-200 gal. type 6 engine, 3 person crew
1-5 person initial attack squad

Steamboat Springs (FS)

1-5 person initial attack squad

Walden (FS)

1-250 gal. type 6 w/foam engine 617
1-1000 gal. port-a-tank w/Mark 3 pump kit
1-500 gal. port-a-tank w/Mark 3 pump kit (can be sling loaded)
1-Helebase kit

Yampa (FS)

1-250 gal. type 6 engine 618
1-Pacific Mark III pump kit

East Grand Fire Protection District

1-1000 gal. type 4 engine 461 (CSFS)
1-200 gal. type 6 engine 472
1-300 gal. type 6 w/CAFS engine 473
1-200 gal. type 6 engine 474
1-2100 gal. type 3 water tender 463
1-Mobile incident command post 492

Granby Fire Department

1-1000 gal. type 3 engine 321
1-250 gal. type 6 engine 341

Grand County EMS

8-4X4 ambulances

1-4X4 medic rescue truck

Grand County Sheriff

Emergency field lighting & 12 pack sets Local Government freq.

Grand Lake Fire Department

1-2000 gal. type 3 water tender 373

Hot Sulphur Springs-Parshall Fire Protection District

1-1000 gal. type 4 engine 288 (CSFS)

1-1000 gal. type 1 all wheel drive engine 287

1-2500 gal. type 2 water tender 286

Kremmling Fire Department

1-1000 gal. type 3 engine 415 (CSFS)

1-200 gal. type 6 engine 413

1-500 gal. type 2 engine 407

1-3000 gal. type 2 water tender 411

1-750 gal. type 1 all wheel drive engine 421

1-750 gal. type 1 engine 409

Rocky Mountain National Park

Grand Lake

1-300 gal. type 6 engine

2-Pacific Mark III pumps

2-Pacific Marine Mark 6 pumps

Estes Park

1-20 person type 1 hand crew, Alpine Hotshots

1-300 gal. type 6 engine (2 wheel drive)

2-150 gal. type 6 engine

USDA Forest Service, Medicine Bow Forest

Encampment

1-250 gal. type 6 engine

Laramie

2-250 gal. type 6 engine

Saratoga

1-250 gal. type 6 engine

USDA Forest Service, Sulphur District

1-200 gal. type 6 engine 681

1-75 gal. type 7 engine 781

1-20 person cache - Shadow Mountain Village Fire Cache

1-Pacific Mark III pump kit - Shadow Mountain Village Fire Cache

VII. PROTECTION AREA MAP

EXHIBIT A, the Routt National Forest map, 1989 revision, is used to show jurisdictional boundaries for the purpose of this plan. The Grand County Sheriff is responsible for fire control on all state and private lands within Grand County. On federal lands, the agency charged with managing those lands is responsible for fire control.

VIII. FIRE READINESS

A. FIRE PLANNING

The primary purpose of this AOP is to set agreed upon measures for wildfire prevention, readiness, and suppression. Grand County has also prepared an interagency county fire plan to prioritize and guide fire hazard mitigation efforts through fuel reduction.

B. WILDFIRE TRAINING NEEDS AND COORDINATION

NWCG approved fire training courses are provided periodically by CSFS, USFS, BLM, NPS, and other agencies. As these courses are scheduled, all cooperators will be informed and invited to participate. CSFS will attempt to provide specific training opportunities for fire district personnel and other private organizations as requested, and as time allows.

C. INSPECTION SCHEDULES

Equipment will be inspected based on need as determined by the agency responsible for such equipment. All CSFS and fire protection district engines subject to interagency dispatch will be inspected annually, both engine and equipment, to ensure use road worthiness.

IX. WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION PROCEDURES

A. INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM USE

The Incident Command System (ICS) will be utilized on all fires. ICS is a standardized method of managing emergency incidents. It is based on:

- Common organizational structure
- Common terminology
- Common operating procedures
- Known qualifications of emergency personnel

ICS does not infringe on the responsibilities or authority given each agency by statute, but if a transfer of authority is necessary as conditions change, ICS eases the transition since organizational structure and lines of authority are clearly identified.

B. DETECTION

Grand County Dispatch in Hot Sulphur Springs (commonly referred to as "Hot Sulphur Dispatch") will receive reports of wildland fires from the public and will notify the jurisdictional agency.

C. MOBILIZATION GUIDES

Interagency Dispatch Centers that are party to this AOP maintain mobilization guides. These guides may be useful to the county for obtaining private sector wildland fire resources.

D. NOTIFICATION OF FIRES

Assisting agencies making initial attack on fires within the mutual aid zone will ensure that the jurisdictional agency is promptly notified of the fire through Hot Sulphur Dispatch. The County Sheriff will be notified of all wildland fires. If the fire is on or threatening state or private land, and is expected to exceed the control capabilities of the county, the CSFS fire duty officer should be notified. If the fire is on land managed by BLM or Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest National Forest, Hot Sulphur dispatch will notify Craig Interagency Dispatch Center (CRC). If the fire is on NPS land Hot Sulphur Dispatch will notify the Colorado River District office of Rocky Mountain National Park. If the fire is on land administered by the Arapaho National Forest, Hot Sulphur Dispatch will notify the Sulphur District of USFS. The Division of Wildlife will be notified of all fires burning in state wildlife areas.

It shall be the responsibility of East Grand Fire Protection District to notify the Colorado State Forest Service if Denver Water lands are involved or threatened. *Failure to notify Colorado State Forest Service may jeopardize the opportunity for reimbursement of suppression expenses.*

E. MUTUAL AID DISPATCH AREAS

Mutual aid fire protection zones are county wide for all agencies except NPS which is one mile either side of the boundary of Rocky Mountain National Park. Jurisdictional boundary lines for USFS, BLM, NPS, and Grand County (private and state) lands are shown on the attached map, EXHIBIT A.

Mutual aid fire protection zones are defined for initial attack purposes only. Assisting agencies will make initial attack on fires within the mutual aid zone based on which agency is in the best position at the time the fire is reported to take the most rapid and effective action.

Initial attack expenses are not reimbursable during the mutual aid period. The mutual aid period extends from the time of initial response until the end of the next full burning period; however, the mutual aid period may end earlier by mutual agreement. For this purpose burning period is defined as 10 AM until sundown. The assisting agency may, at its discretion, request reimbursement from the jurisdictional agency for costs incurred after the mutual aid period.

Each agency will make it's personnel and equipment available upon request to the other agencies. It is understood however, that no agency will be required or expected to commit its forces to assisting another agency to the extent of jeopardizing its own responsibilities, or the security of lands it is charged with protecting. Each agency or department is responsible for providing worker's compensation insurance for its own personnel.

F. INITIAL ATTACK DISPATCH LEVELS

Initial attack dispatch levels are not predetermined in Grand County, but are based on the availability of personnel at the time of dispatch.

G. DISPATCHING AND RESOURCE ORDER PROCESS

Grand County Dispatch (commonly referred to as "Hot Sulphur Dispatch") in Hot Sulphur Springs will act as dispatch for county and fire protection districts initial attack response. The agency that can take the quickest effective fire suppression action will be dispatched for initial attack. The jurisdictional agency will assume command of the suppression action at the earliest possible time. Notification of all other agencies that are, or may be affected, is the responsibility of the responding agency. The Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement between all Grand County fire protection districts allows resources to be dispatched anywhere in the county, at the request of a fire protection district representative acting as incident commander.

Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center (FTC) is responsible for dispatching and coordination of Rocky Mountain National Park and Arapaho National Forest resources.

Craig Interagency Dispatch Center (CRC) is responsible for dispatching and coordination of all other resources within Grand County, beyond the county sheriff's initial attack response. CRC will contact individuals directly. It is the individual's responsibility to notify their respective supervisor of assignment to an incident.

An expanded dispatch, in coordination with CRC and FTC, will be considered for fires that escape initial attack.

CSFS will provide CRC with a list of state and county resources that are available for out of county assignments.

Use of roads on federal lands presently closed to vehicular travel (outside of wilderness areas) is hereby authorized to all parties to this AOP, when said parties are on a fire detection, prevention, or suppression mission. Exceptions are specified in section V.D.

It shall be the responsibility of East Grand Fire Protection District, when responding to a wildfire on Denver Water lands to order needed assistance, or acquire replacements to relieve initial attack crews.

1. UNIFIED COMMAND

If a fire crosses, or threatens to cross, jurisdictional boundaries and becomes a boundary fire, a Unified Command should be formed. The purpose of the Unified Command will be to identify policies and direction resulting in one common set of objectives for implementation by the Incident Commander. The Unified Command may also determine reimbursement responsibilities and shares between the agencies (see section XIII.). The Unified Command will consist of representatives of the following agencies that are affected:

- Grand County - Sheriff or designee.
- Colorado State Forest Service - District Forester or designee.
- Federal land agency involved - Forest Supervisor (USFS) or designee, or Field Office Manager (BLM) or designee, or Park Superintendent (NPS) or designee.

2. BOUNDARY FIRES

Boundary fires include (i) a fire burning jointly on two or more agencies lands, or will soon burn across the boundary, when the boundary line is known, (ii) when the fire location is known, but the jurisdictional boundary on the ground is unknown, or (iii)

when the location of a reported fire is uncertain in relation to the jurisdictional boundary.

H. REINFORCEMENTS AND SUPPORT

All requests for additional resources beyond initial attack will be made by the applicable agency representative, using appropriate ordering procedures as follows:

- Within the jurisdictional boundaries of Sulphur Ranger District and Rocky Mountain National Park place orders through Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center.
- Within the jurisdictional boundaries of Grand County Sheriff, Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest, and BLM place orders through Craig Interagency Dispatch Center.

In the event of a fire burning on lands of two or more jurisdictional agencies that are normally not dispatched by the same dispatch center, CRC and FTC will coordinate and determine which center will do all dispatching.

I. MOVE UP AND COVER PROCEDURES

Move up and cover procedures have not been predetermined, but can occur between fire protection districts under the auspices of the Grand County Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement.

J. INTERAGENCY PROCUREMENT

Non-federal participants in this plan may purchase fire suppression supplies from GSA through CSFS. Any other loaning, sharing, exchanging, or maintenance of facilities, equipment, or support services will be considered on a case by case basis and must be mutually agreed upon by the concerned parties.

K. COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS AND FREQUENCIES

For the purposes of conducting business authorized by this cooperative agreement, all parties to this operating plan agree that assisting agencies may use the jurisdictional agency's radio frequencies as needed to conduct emergency communications on fires of the jurisdictional agency. No party to this operating plan will use, or authorize others to use, another agency's radio frequencies for routine daily operations. Fire protection districts on incident management missions, under the auspices of the county, are granted permission to use federal radio frequencies, if needed, to assure safety of the operation. No agency, other than BLM, USFS, and NPS is authorized to transmit on Air Net frequencies

unless specifically authorized by user name. Radio frequencies specifically authorized for use are shown in EXHIBIT D.

L. WILDLAND FIRE SITUATION ANALYSIS

Federal agencies are required to complete a Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) on all fires on federal land that escape initial attack. This procedure requires federal agency unit administrator participation.

CSFS requires an Emergency Fire Fund (EFF) Analysis Form (CSFS #108A attached as EXHIBIT B) to be prepared on non-federal fires that have the potential to exceed county control capabilities. The Sheriff should use this form to help determine if a fire might be eligible for EFF.

CSFS will be involved in the WFSA preparation for all designated EFF fires.

M. STATE EMERGENCY FIRE FUND (EFF)

1. INTENT

Grand County and Denver Water are members of the State EFF agreement. The purpose of the EFF agreement is to provide funds to cover costs associated with a large fire, or multiple fires on non-federal lands that the resources of the county cannot handle.

When EFF is implemented, CSFS assumes responsibility and authority for all suppression activity until the fire is returned to county responsibility; however, the county must maintain a minimum level of participation after EFF is implemented as outlined in section IX.M.5.b.

2. FUNDING

EFF members contribute annually, based on a CSFS assessment that considers the number of forested acres and valuation of private land.

3. ROLES

a. CSFS DISTRICT FORESTER

Act for State Forester in the absence of an assigned Incident Line Officer; assist Sheriff in completing EFF Analysis Form (CSFS #108A) for each shift; prepare CSFS Fire Funding Request (CSFS #164); assure Incident Line Officer is aware of local situations and procedures.

b. GRAND COUNTY SHERIFF

Prepare EFF Analysis Form (CSFS #108A) for potential EFF fires; sign Assumption of Fire Control Duty Form (CSFS #168) for EFF fires; serve as county representative on the Unified Command.

c. GRAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Sign Assumption of Fire Control Duty Form (CSFS #168) for EFF fires.

d. FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS

Provide Sheriff with personnel and equipment necessary to meet county resource commitments.

4. UNIFIED COMMAND

All EFF fires will utilize a Unified Command consisting of, at a minimum, Grand County Sheriff and CSFS. If land administered by another agency is threatened or involved, that agency will provide a member of the Unified Command as outlined in section IX.G.1.

5. EFF ACTIVATION

Implementation of the Emergency Fire Fund can be done only by the Colorado State Forester upon the recommendation of the local CSFS District Forester, following a request from the Sheriff or his designee. For this reason, it is important that the CSFS Fire Duty Officer be notified immediately of all major fires within the county. Should the fire surpass, or threaten to surpass the ability of county resources to contain it, EFF implementation can occur only with a CSFS representative on scene.

a. CSFS FORMS

* 108A prepared by County Sheriff and CSFS District Forester (EXHIBIT B).

* 162 & 164 prepared by CSFS District Forester with input from County Sheriff.

* WFSA prepared by Line Officer with input from District Forester and Sheriff.

b. COUNTY RESPONSIBILITY

The **minimum** Grand County resource commitment for an on going EFF fire is two wildland engines, two structural engines, two water tenders, and one dozer, all with operators. Additionally, Grand County will provide an incident command post and traffic control. It is understood that if the tactics of a given incident do not require some of this equipment, it will not be required on scene.

c. CSFS RESPONSIBILITY

CSFS will provide a District Representative and an Incident Line Officer for each EFF fire. CSFS will act as the fund administrator for all EFF fires.

6. EFF DEACTIVATION

CSFS will transfer responsibility of an EFF fire back to Grand County when the Line Officer's objectives have been met, and a written plan has been prepared for the next operational period.

a. MOP-UP AND PATROL

The county will be responsible for mop-up and patrol, after responsibility of an EFF fire has been transferred back to the county from CSFS, according to an extended incident action plan.

b. RECLAMATION

EFF is a fire control agreement only. EFF funds cannot be used for reclamation following a fire. Dozers could be used to construct waterbars on control lines as they exit an area, but using dozers to make waterbars after the EFF period, or reseeding efforts following a fire are not costs included in the EFF Agreement.

N. DISPATCH CENTERS

Dispatch centers and their areas of responsibility are outlined in section IX.G.

O. POST-INCIDENT ACTION ANALYSIS

Analysis of incidents will be conducted at a level commensurate with the complexity of the incident.

P. OUT-OF-JURISDICTION ASSIGNMENTS

Fire Protection Districts will notify CSFS weekly of resources that are available for out of county assignment. CSFS will consolidate the list of available resources and forward it to CRC.

Red cards are not required for initial attack, but firefighters without red cards will be the first ones released by the jurisdictional agency. In most cases this will occur no later than the next day operational period.

X. AVIATION PROCEDURES

A. AVIATION REQUESTS AND OPERATION

When aircraft is requested by any agency for suppression efforts, the request must include the following:

- Name and agency of person ordering
- Fire name, location (lat. & long. or section, township, & range), & elevation
- Name and radio frequency of ground contact at the fire
- Other aircraft in the area, including radio frequencies in use
- Aircraft hazards in the area

Requests for aircraft will be made by the responsible official of the jurisdictional agency. For fires on non-federal lands, aircraft orders will be made through CRC, and will be authorized by the following county representatives:

- Sheriff Rod Johnson
- Undersheriff Glen Trainor
- Lieutenant Walt Eldridge
- On scene incident commander

The County Sheriff or his designee will notify the CSFS Fire Duty Officer immediately when aircraft is ordered for county jurisdiction fires.

B. LEADPLANE /AIR ATTACK ACTIVATION

Heavy air tankers are automatically dispatched with a leadplane when one is available.

C. WILDFIRE EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND

The Wildfire Emergency Response Fund (WERF) was created by the legislature to provide funding or reimbursement for the first aerial tanker flight to a wildfire at the request of any sheriff, municipal fire department, or fire protection district. This fund will be utilized to assist on non-federal lands only. The fund will be utilized for the costs of the first aerial drop on a wildfire. In the case of helicopter

use as the first response, the fund will cover the first hour of helicopter rotor time only, including the pilot.

Fixed wing aircraft reimbursement does not include lead plane or aerial observer aircraft. Rotary wing aircraft reimbursement does not include costs for additional personnel associated with the helicopter. The fund will not pay for ferry time to import aircraft from outside Colorado. The fund will not pay for aircraft identified as a mutual aid resource in this operating plan.

By agreement with the federal agencies, invoices for aircraft use covered by the fund will be sent to the CSFS State Office. Upon receipt of the federal invoice, the fund will pay for documented eligible costs. Invoice costs not covered by WERF will be forwarded to the jurisdiction that ordered the aerial resource.

CSFS will closely monitor use of this fund since it is limited in size. Once the fund is exhausted, the State Forester will make a decision to continue or end this effort. For this reason, it will be necessary for CRC to page the CSFS Granby District fire duty officer upon receiving an order for aerial retardant drop, or helicopter use from Grand County.

Grand County and the Colorado State Forest Service had previously entered into an Initial Attack Aircraft Agreement (IAAA) for wildfire suppression during the first burn period. With the advent of WERF, IAAA is currently suspended.

D. CSFS SINGLE ENGINE AIR TANKERS

When a combination of factors or events, as agreed to by the Sheriff and CSFS, create a situation that warrants pre-positioning of a SEAT in Grand County, the Sheriff may request pre-positioning through the CSFS fire duty officer. Factors may include, but are not limited to, multiple starts within a 24 hour period, high occurrence of dry lightning, or persistent Red Flag Warnings. CSFS will notify participants to this plan when a SEAT is pre-positioned in Grand County. Each agency should follow their normal resource request procedure to request a SEAT for use on an incident, regardless of whether the SEAT is pre-positioned in Grand County or not.

Kremmling FPD will provide ground support when a SEAT is pre-positioned or flying missions from the Kremmling airport. Granby Fire Department will do likewise when a SEAT is operating out of Granby airport. Jet A fuel is stored at both airports.

XI. FIRE PREVENTION

A. GENERAL COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

When cooperating agencies determine that the fire danger warrants, fire prevention/suppression patrols may be initiated. If prevention patrol personnel are hired as ADs, they could be required to respond anywhere on the administrative unit, including the Front Range. Volunteer patrol personnel will not be required to respond.

B. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

1. FIRE DANGER

a. FIRE WEATHER STATION LOCATIONS

NPS maintains the Sulphur fire weather station at the visitor's center just inside the national park boundary on US Highway 34. Fire weather and fuels information from this station should be similar to most of the lodgepole pine type in Grand County. The Gunsight Pass RAWS is located about 11 miles north of Kremmling. Fire weather and fuels information from this remote automatic weather station should be similar to most of the sagebrush fuel type in Grand County.

b. DATA SHARING AND METHODS

During fire season, CRC prepares a daily briefing that includes weather forecasts, resource status, and incident status. This is available by 1000 hours at:

www.fs.fed.us/r2/fire/crc/dailybrief.htm

During fire season CRC holds a daily conference call briefing.

FTC holds a conference call during fire season on Mondays at 1000 for Planning Levels 1, 2 and daily at 1000 hours for Planning Levels 3,4,5. Contact Paul Mintier, Sulphur FMO or FTC for conference call number and pass code.

The FTC web site is located at: www.fs.fed.us/arnf/fire/fire.html

c. FIRE DANGER DISSEMINATION

FTC broadcasts weather between 1000 and 1030 hours. Between 1600 and 1630 hours FTC & CRC broadcast the fire danger rating with weather forecast and predicted fire danger rating for the next day. These broadcasts will be on the Arapaho National Forest radio net, Med Bow-Routt National Forest radio net, and BLM radio net.

d. FIRE PREVENTION SIGNS

The Sulphur Ranger District will notify East Grand, Grand Lake, and Kremmling FPDs of changes in fire danger so that signs may be kept current.

2. JOINT OR SINGLE AGENCY PRESS RELEASES

Each agency will prepare and release fire prevention material and media presentations according to its own prevention plans. Coordination with other agencies should be maintained in order to prevent a conflict in released material. Where pertinent, all news releases for fire prevention will carry USFS, CSFS, NPS, BLM, fire district or county sheriff by-line.

3. SMOKEY BEAR PROGRAM

Cooperating agencies may purchase Smokey Bear materials through CSFS.

4. FIREWISE PROGRAM

The FireWise Program promotes awareness of wildland-urban interface issues. The program provides firefighters with uniform information on wildland fire threat and hazard mitigation opportunities. In turn firefighters disseminate the information to at risk communities.

5. RED FLAG ANNOUNCEMENTS

The National Weather Service periodically issues " FIRE WEATHER WATCH" and "RED FLAG WARNING" bulletins. When these bulletins are announced, CRC will notify CSFS Granby District and Grand County Dispatch via FAX. Grand County Dispatch will page fire protection districts for "RED FLAG WARNING" bulletins only.

C. ENFORCEMENT

1. OPEN BURNING PERMITS

An open burning permit is required by Grand County for prescribed fires on private land. Agencies conducting prescribed fires on other lands will follow the jurisdictional agency's policy and procedures, notify Hot Sulphur Dispatch, and notify the Grand County Department of Natural Resources at (970) 887-2123. Such notification should include the location, timing, and nature of prescribed burns.

2. RESTRICTIONS AND CLOSURES

Decisions about open burning restrictions can be made by the county sheriff, federal land management agencies, and the Governor's office. When contemplating restrictions on open burning or lifting restrictions agencies will advise cooperators of the situation and consider coordinating their actions. The agencies issuing restrictions shall jointly prepare and promptly distribute media releases explaining the restrictions.

The Arapaho National Forest and the Grand County Sheriff will utilize criteria developed by FTC to assist in determining the need for burning restrictions and closures. These criteria are based on a number of calculated, field sampled, and quantifiable variables. Local and political parameters will also be considered in determining the need for fire restrictions or closures. The Sulphur weather station will be used for the lodgepole pine type and the Gunsight weather station will be used for the sagebrush type. Information needed for input into the restriction matrix can be obtained from FTC or their web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/arnf/fire/fire.html>

The Sheriff will be responsible for enforcement of burning restrictions and closures on all non-federal lands, and may assist on other lands at the request of the appropriate agency.

3. FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

The jurisdictional agency will have primary responsibility for fire investigation, and any civil or criminal follow up actions taken.

XII. FUELS MANAGEMENT AND PRESCRIBED FIRE CONSIDERATIONS

Wildfires resulting from escaped prescribed fires, ignited by, or at the direction of, or under the supervision of any party to this agreement, shall be the responsibility of that party, and all suppression costs shall be borne by that party.

If parties to this Agreement conduct a cooperative prescribed fire, details covering cost sharing, reimbursement, and responsibility for suppression costs, should it escape, shall be agreed upon and documented in the burn plan.

XIII. COST REIMBURSEMENTS

A. REIMBURSABLE COSTS

Costs incurred by an assisting agency for services that exceed initial attack, as described in section IX.E. shall be considered reimbursable. These services must

be requested by the jurisdictional agency and resources must check in and check out with appropriate command or documentation personnel. An Emergency Equipment Shift Ticket (OF-297) is required to document equipment time, and an Emergency Firefighter Time Report or Crew Time Report is required to document personnel time. Undocumented personnel or equipment will not be compensated. Resources not ordered by the jurisdictional agency or freelance resources sent by any other agency without jurisdictional agency approval will not be compensated.

Costs incurred by East Grand Fire Protection District on Denver Water lands, for the initial attack period and beyond, and for additional time or efforts which may be requested by the Colorado State Forest Service or Denver Water, shall be considered reimbursable, following approval by the Colorado State Forest Service. An agency that provides a reasonable initial attack response on Denver Water lands when East Grand Fire Protection District is unable to respond, may also request reimbursement.

When a wildfire occurs on lands of more than one agency, and costs are incurred in addition to the initial attack, reimbursement will be based on acres burned within jurisdictions, unless otherwise agreed to by the Unified Command and documented with a cost share agreement. The Unified Command should complete the cost share agreement prior to fire close out.

B. REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURES AND CLAIMS

The county may aggregate expenses for employees and equipment incurred by the county and/or fire districts to suppress fires on federal jurisdictions, and may present an invoice for such expenses to CSFS, who will then reimburse the county and subsequently bill the jurisdictional federal agencies.

Federal agencies may submit bills and statements for reimbursements from county and/or fire districts for federal suppression on non-federal lands to CSFS. CSFS will make such reimbursement and subsequently invoice the county or fire district as appropriate.

All CSFS reimbursements to cooperators require invoices to be sent to the Granby CSFS office within 30 days after incident resources are released. The CSFS State Office will make payment as soon as possible after receiving the invoice. Invoices must have proper documentation supporting expenses before the process for payment can be completed. This will include information on personnel time, equipment time, and rates of pay.

Damage or loss claims will be made directly with the incident at the time they occur and prior to demobilization.

Payment for reimbursable costs on Denver Water lands require that CSFS be notified of fires by the responding agency. **Failure to notify CSFS will jeopardize the opportunity for reimbursement to the responding agencies.**

Payment for reimbursable costs for fires on Denver Water lands must be coordinated through the local CSFS District Office. Requests for reimbursement should be accompanied by a copy of the incident report. Invoices are required to have proper documentation:

- ☐ Invoice memo addressed to the Denver Water Board on the billing agency's letterhead, requesting payment for resources involved in wildfire suppression on the incident located on Denver Water lands. Reference the fire dates and times; legal location; Denver Water land parcel name or location; size of fire; fire number (if assigned by Interagency Dispatch Center); and referring to the attached supporting documentation and costs verifications.
- ☐ Personnel time in the form of: Crew Time Reports; photocopies of **USDA/USDI Fire Time Sheets, Optional Form 288** for personnel from the Federal government (both regular employees and those hired under the AD Plan for Emergency Workers).
- ☐ Equipment Shift Tickets for all equipment; photocopies of Emergency Equipment Rental Agreements or Equipment Use Invoices for equipment contracted; photocopies of all current Cooperative Resource Rate Forms (CRRFs) that may apply to the equipment or personnel. The equipment or personnel utilized should be highlighted or marked on the CRRFs for cross-reference to the supporting documents.
- ☐ Denver Water will reimburse the assisting agency for the actual costs of supplies and materials used for the fire effort. Complete requests on **Form SF 95; Claims for Damage, Injury Or Death**, as revised.

Reimbursement requests will be reviewed by the local CSFS District Office for verification or correction of actual costs to be paid. When verified, the CSFS District Office will coordinate with the CSFS Special Projects Forester for Denver Water lands, and a recommendation for payment will be forwarded to Denver Water. Payment will be made directly to the requesting agencies from Denver Water. Subsequent payments from the agency or department to its personnel or contractors will follow that entity's internal policy.

C. RESOURCE USE RATES

Cooperative Resource Rate Forms, attached to this operating plan as EXHIBIT C, set forth agreed upon equipment and personnel rates. Fire Protection Districts that choose not to complete the Cooperative Resource Rate Form will be required

to complete an Emergency Equipment Rental Agreement at the time of the incident and are restricted to the standard Rocky Mountain Area equipment rates.

If personnel rates are included on a Cooperative Resource Rate Form, the fire department will be reimbursed for allowable documented costs. Each department using the Cooperative Resource Rate Form will provide worker's compensation insurance for all involved department personnel.

XIV. GENERAL PROCEDURES

A. PERIODIC PROGRAM REVIEW

Program reviews will be conducted at the annual fire operating plan meeting in March.

B. ANNUAL UPDATING OF PLAN

The annual fire operating plan will be updated each year. A meeting of cooperating agencies will be held by the first week of March each year. The updated plan will be circulated for signatures prior to May. If no changes are made, a statement letter with signatures of all parties to this annual operating plan will be distributed.

C. MID YEAR CHANGES

Mid year changes are to be avoided; however, if an agency becomes unable to uphold commitments, it should notify all parties to this agreement.

D. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES

The primary purpose of this operating plan is to ensure appropriate management of wildland fires. Any interagency dispute arising from these procedures will be resolved on site by the local Unified Command. When necessary, following the conclusion of the fire incident, a panel of agency representatives other than the participants in the incident will review and resolve the dispute.

XV. DIRECTORY OF PERSONNEL

BLM, Kremmling Field Office

Business Office

970-724-3000

FAX

970-724-9590

John Ruhs, Field Office Manager

970-531-2540-C

Colorado State Forest Service, Granby District

Business Office

970-887-3121

FAX	970-887-3150
Mike Harvey, District Forester	970-217-6981-C 970-887-2958-H
Ron Cousineau, Assistant District Forester	970-217-7022-C 970-887-3513-H
Hans Rinke, Forester	970-485-0541-C 970-887-0367-H
 <u>Colorado State Forest Service, State Office</u>	
Fire Duty Officer, Ft. Collins (24 hour May-October)	970-491-6304
Note: Use only if unable to contact a Granby District representative.	
 <u>Craig Interagency Dispatch Center (CRC)</u>	
Craig 24 hour number	970-826-5037 970-629-1040-C
FAX	970-826-5051
Cathy Hutton, Center Manager	970-629-1256-C 970-826-0694-H
Website: www.fs.fed.us/r2/fire/rmacc.html	
 <u>Northwest Colorado Fire Management Unit</u>	
Mike Rieser, FMO	970-826-5030-O 970-326-8627-C 970-824-2919-H
Cliff Hutton, AFMO	970-826-5036-O 970-326-6777-C 970-878-1956-P
Randy Lownes, East Zone FMO	970-723-8204-O 307-760-5764-C 970-218-1192-H
Mark Westfahl, East Zone AFMO	970-723-8503-H
Kent Foster, Central Zone FMO	970-870-2142-O 970-846-9322-C 970-879-1173-H

Mark Cahur, Central Zone AFMO	970-870-2214-O
	970-846-3824-C
	970-879-5631-H

Oscar Martinez, Yampa District Ranger	970-638-4516-O
	307-760-4468-C

Lori Kelly, Medicine Bow-Routt Business Office	970-638-4213-H
	307-745-2451-O

<u>East Grand Fire Protection District</u>	
Business Office	970-726-5824
FAX	970-726-5938
Todd Holzwarth, Chief	970-726-5832-H
Jim Holahan, District Manager	970-726-5022-H
Fire Dispatch	970-725-3311

<u>Fort Collins Dispatch Center (FTC)</u>	
Fort Collins 24 hour number	970-498-1348
FAX	970-498-1364
Mark Nelson, Dispatcher, pager number	970-490-5291
Assistant Dispatcher, pager number	970-226-7319
Website: http://www.fs.fed.us/arnf/fire/fire.html	

<u>Granby Fire Department</u>	
Dave Boyes, Chief	970-887-3341-O
Fire Dispatch	970-725-3311

<u>Grand County Commissioners</u>		
Bob Anderson	Granby	970-887-3793-H
Duane Daily	Hot Sulphur Springs	970-725-3240-H
James Newberry	Tabernash	970-726-0160-H
Lurline Underbrink Curren, County Manager		970-724-3714-H

<u>Grand County Dispatch</u>	
Hot Sulphur Springs 24 hour number	970-725-3311
FAX	970-725-3227

<u>Grand County Sheriff</u>	
Rod Johnson, Sheriff	970-531-1111-C
Glen Trainor, Undersheriff	970-725-3343
Walt Eldridge, Lieutenant	970-723-3343
FAX	970-725-3227

Grand Lake Fire Protection District

Business Office	970-627-8428
FAX	970-627-8428
Mike Long, Chief	970-389-5221-C
Fire Dispatch	970-725-3311

Hot Sulphur Springs-Parshall Fire Protection District.

Steve Gall, Chief	970-725-3920-H
	970-725-3322-W
George Davis, Assistant Chief	970-725-3578-H
Fire Dispatch	970-725-3311

Kremmling Fire Protection District

Business Office	970-724-3795
Tony Tucker, Chief	970-724-9502-H
	970-531-3380-C
Dan Murphy, Assistant Chief	970-724-9713-H
Fire Dispatch	970-725-3311

Rocky Mountain National Park

Rocky Mountain NP Dispatch, Estes Park	970-586-1399
Jesse Duhnkrack, FMO	970-586-1287
	970-577-0238-H
Michelle Anderson, Fire Program Assistant	970-586-1237
Colorado River District Office, Grand Lake	970-627-3471

USDA Forest Service, Arapaho National Forest-Sulphur District

Business Office	970-887-4100
Pager #3935 (Grand County Dispatch)	970-725-3311
FAX	970-887-4102

Paul Mintier, FMO	970-887-4128-O
	970-531-0078-C
	970-627-3724-H
USFS pager	970-204-2950

Thomas Williams, Timber Fire Staff	970-887-4132-O
	970-531-2564-C
	970-887-2075-H
USFS pager	970-204-2947

USDA Forest Service, Fraser Experimental Forest

Business Office Fort Collins	970-498-1100
Fraser	970-726-5220

Manual Martinez
Todd Mowrer

970-493-1971-H
970-498-1255-H